

PATENT
Serial No. 10/523,386
Amendment in Reply to Final Office Action mailed on October 25, 2006

REMARKS

The following remarks are being filed in response to the Final Office Action mailed on October 25, 2006, which has been reviewed and carefully considered. Reconsideration and allowance of the present application in view of the amendments made above and the remarks to follow are respectfully requested.

By means of the present amendment, the current Abstract has been deleted and substituted with the enclosed New Abstract which better conforms to U.S. practice. Further, the specification has been amended for better conformance to U.S. practice.

By means of the present amendment, claims 1, 4-5 and 8 have been amended for better conformance to U.S. practice, such as changing "characterized in that" to --wherein--, and beginning the dependent claims with 'The' instead of 'A'. Claims 1, 4-5 and 8 were not amended in order to address issues of patentability and Applicants respectfully reserve all rights under the Doctrine of Equivalents.

In the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that claim 4 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicants

PATENT

Serial No. 10/523,386

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gratefully acknowledge the indication that claim, 4 contains allowable subject matter. By means of the present amendment, claim 4 has been rewritten in independent form. Further, new independent claims 19 and 22 also include the patentable features of allowed claim 4. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that independent claims 1, 19 and 22 be allowed. In addition, it is respectfully submitted that claims 13, 20-21 and 23-24 should also be allowed at least based on their dependence from independent claims 1, 19 and 22. Further, new dependent claims 11, 15 and 17 also included the patentable features of allowed claim 4 and thus allowance of claims 11, 15 and 17 is also respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 1, 5 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,236,632 (Hayashi). It is respectfully submitted that claims 1, 5, 8, 12, 14, 16 and 18 are patentable Hayashi for at least the following reasons.

As shown in FIG 6, Hayashi is directed to a disk driver that includes a capacitor having one terminal connected to ground, and the other terminal connected between a low pass filter 30 and an RF voltage controlled oscillator 31.

PATENT
Serial No. 10/523,386
Amendment in Reply to Final Office Action mailed on October 25, 2006

It is respectfully submitted that the low pass filter 30 and an RF voltage controlled oscillator 31 are NOT converters configured for converting voltages to currents, as recited in claims 12, 14, 16, 18, 21 and 24. Further, the Hayashi capacitor has one terminal connected to ground.

In stark contrast, the present invention as recited in independent claim 1, and similarly recited in independent claims 5 and 8, amongst other patentable elements requires (illustrative emphasis provided):

wherein said at least one generator comprises two converters interconnected with two connections, and at least one capacitor connected between the two connections.

These features are nowhere taught or suggested in Hayashi. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 1, 5 and 8 should be allowable, and allowance thereof is respectfully requested. In addition, it is respectfully submitted that claims 12, 14, 16 and 18 should also be allowed at least based on their dependence from independent claims 1, 5 and 8.

In addition, Applicants deny any statement, position or averment of the Examiner that is not specifically addressed by the

PATENT

Serial No. 10/523,386

Amendment in Reply to Final Office Action mailed on October 25, 2006

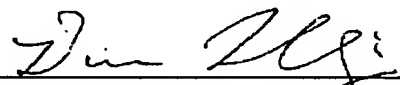
foregoing argument and response. Any rejections and/or points of argument not addressed would appear to be moot in view of the presented remarks. However, the Applicants reserve the right to submit further arguments in support of the above stated position, should that become necessary. No arguments are waived and none of the Examiner's statements are conceded.

It is believed that no additional fees or charges are currently due beyond the fee for the Request for Continued Examination (RCE) and the fee for additional independent claims to be charged to the credit card as noted by the enclosed authorization. No excess claim fees are due since the total number of claims is 18, and not 24, in view of canceled claims 2-3, 6-7 and 9-10. However, in the event that any additional fees or charges are required for entrance of the accompanying amendment, they may be charged to Applicants' representatives Deposit Account No. 50-3649. In addition, please credit any overpayments related to any fees paid in connection with the accompanying amendment to Deposit Account No. 50-3649.

PATENT
Serial No. 10/523,386
Amendment in Reply to Final Office Action mailed on October 25, 2006

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

By 
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December 6, 2006

Enclosure: New Abstract
RCE Transmittal
Authorization to charge credit card \$1390, including
\$790 for RCE fee, and \$600 for three independent
claims in excess of three (i.e., six total
independent claims)

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PATENT

Serial No. 10/523,386

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NEW ABSTRACT

An optical disk system includes at least one photo detector connected with a variable gain amplifier, a slicer, and a generator which is in the feedback path between the slicer and amplifier. A differential time delay detector provides the output of the optical disk system. The generator is configured for controlling the amplifier non-linearly so that time constants of the control loop of the amplifier which depend upon the level of the input signals are compensated and the timing behavior of the control loop of the amplifier has a more continuous character. A capacitor forms part of an integrator for making the mean value of the output voltage signal of the slicer equal to zero.